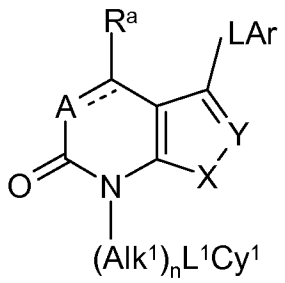
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (1):



(1)

wherein

the dashed line joining A and C(R^a) is present and represents a bond and A is ~~a -N= atom or~~ a -C(R^b)= group~~, or the dashed line is absent and A is a -N(R^b)- or -C(R^b)(R^e)- group~~;

R^a and R^b are both hydrogen ~~and R^e is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, -CN, $-CO_2H$, $-CO_2R^1$, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHR^1$ or $-CONR^1R^2$ group~~;

~~R^1 and R^2 are each, independently, an optionally substituted alkyl group;~~

X is ~~an -O-~~, -S- ~~or substituted nitrogen atom or a -S(O)-, $-S(O)_2$- or -NH- group~~;

Y is -C(R^{10})= in which R^{10} is $-CONH_2$, -CONHHet^1, -CON(R^{12})Het^2, -CON(R^{12})Alk^5Het^2 or $-CO_2Alk^6$ wherein -NHHet^1 is pyrrolidinyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperidinyl or thiazolidinyl, R^{12} is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C_{1-6} alkyl group, -Het^2 is cyclopentyl,

cyclohexyl, pyrrolidinyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperidinyl or thiazolidinyl, Alk^5 is a straight or branched C_{1-6} alkylene, C_{2-6} alkenylene or C_{2-6} alkynylene chain, optionally interrupted by one, two or three -O- or -S- atoms or -S(O)-, $-S(O)_2-$ or $-N(R^{12})-$ groups, and Alk^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl;

n is zero or the integer 1;

Alk^1 is an aliphatic or heteroaliphatic chain optionally substituted with one, two, three or more substituents where each substituent may be the same or different and is selected from halogen atoms, -OH, $-CO_2H$, $-CO_2R^4$ $-CO_2CH_3$, $-CON(CH_3)_3$, $-CONHR^4$, $-CON(R^4)_2$, $-COR^4$, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halo(C_{1-6})alkoxy, -SH, $-S(O)R^4$, $-S(O)_2R^4$, C_{1-6} alkylthio, NHR^4, and $-N(R^4)_2$, where R^4 is an optionally substituted straight or branched C_{1-6} alkyl group, and such that where two R^4 groups are present they may be the same or different and, if attached to an N atom may be joined, together with the N atom to which they are attached, to form a heterocyclic ring, which heterocyclic ring may be optionally interrupted by a further heteroatom or heteroatom-containing group selected from -O-, -S-, $-N(R^4)-$, -C(O)- or-C (S)-;

L^1 is a covalent bond or a linker atom or group, said linker atom or group being selected from -O-, -S-, -C (O)- ,-C (O) O-, -OC (O)-, -C (S) -, -S (O)-, $-S (O)_2-$, $-N(R^3)-$, $-N(R^3)O-$, $-N(R^3)NH-$, $- CON(R^3)-$, $-OC(O)N(R^3)-$, $-CSN (R^3)-$, $-N(R^3)CO-$, $-(R^3)C(O)O-$, $-N(R^3)CS-$, $-S(O)_2N (R^3)-$, $-N(R^3)S(O)_2-$, $-N(R^3)CON(R^3)-$, $-N(R^3)CSN(R^3)-$ and $-N(R^3)SO_2N(R^3)-$, where R^3 is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group, and such that where L^1 contains two R^3 groups these may be the same or different;

Cy^1 is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted cycloaliphatic, polycycloaliphatic, heterocycloaliphatic, polyheterocycloaliphatic, aromatic or heteroaromatic group, said optional substituent being selected from halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo(C_{1-6} alkyl), C_{1-6} alkoxy, halo(C_{1-6} alkoxy), cyano, $-CO_2CH_3$, $-CO_2C(CH_3)_3$, nitro, amino, $-NHCH_3$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-COCH_3$ and $-NHCOCH_3$;

L is an atom or chain $-(CH_2)_pHet(CH_2)_q-$;

p and q, which may be the same or different, are each zero or the integer 1;

Het is an -O- or -S- atom or a $-C(R^{3a})(R^{3b})-$, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, -OC(O)-, -C(S)-, -S(O)-, $-S(O)_2-$, $-N(R^{3c})O-$, $-N(R^{3c})NH-$, $-N(R^{3c})C(R^{3a})(R^{3b})-$, $-CON(R^{3c})-$, $-OC(O)N(R^{3c})-$, $-CSN(R^{3c})-$, $-N(R^{3c})CO-$, $-N(R^{3c})C(O)O-$, $-N(R^{3c})CS-$, $-S(O)_2N(R^{3c})-$, $-N(R^{3c})S(O)_2-$, $-N(R^{3c})CON(R^{3d})-$, $-N(R^{3c})CSN(R^{3d})-$ or $-N(R^{3c})S(O)_2N(R^{3d})-$ group and, when one or both of p and q is the integer 1, Het is additionally a $-N(R^{3c})-$ group;

R^{3a} and R^{3b} are each independently a hydrogen atom, -OH, or an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl group;

R^{3c} and R^{3d} are each independently a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group;

Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. – 4. (cancelled)

5. (previously presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Y is -C(R^{10})= in which R^{10} is -CN, -$CONH_2$ or -CO_2Alk^6 and Alk^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl.

6. (previously presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Cy^1 is phenyl or cyclopropyl.

7. (previously presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ar represents phenyl, halophenyl, dihalophenyl, (C_{1-6} alkyl)phenyl, pyridinyl or (C_{1-6} alkyl)pyridinyl.

8. (previously presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 selected from

Ethyl 3-(benzylamino)-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-(*N*-benzyl-*N*-methylamino)-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 6-oxo-7-phenyl-3-[(1-phenylethyl)amino]- 6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-[(2,6-difluorobenzyl)amino]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-benzyl-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 6-oxo-3-phenoxy-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 6-oxo-7-phenyl-3-(phenylthio)-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 6-oxo-7-phenyl-3-[(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)amino]-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

3-(Benzylamino)-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carbonitrile;

6-Oxo-7-phenyl-3-(phenylthio)-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxamide;

Ethyl 3-(benzoylamino)-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 6-oxo-7-phenyl-3-[(phenylsulphonyl)amino]-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-[(anilinocarbonyl)amino]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 6-oxo-7-phenyl-3-(2-phenylethyl)-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-[hydroxy(phenyl)methyl]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-[hydroxy(6-methylpyridin-2-yl)methyl]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-[hydroxy(3-methylphenyl)methyl]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

3-[Hydroxy(phenyl)methyl]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carbonitrile;

3-[Hydroxy(3-methylphenyl)methyl]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carbonitrile;

Ethyl 7-(cyclopropylmethyl)-3-[hydroxy(phenyl)methyl]-6-oxo-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-(anilinosulfonyl)-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-[(3-methylphenyl)thio]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate;

Ethyl 3-[2-(4-methylphenyl)hydrazino]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate; and

Ethyl 3-[(3-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl]-6-oxo-7-phenyl-6,7-dihydrothieno[2,3-*b*]pyridine-2-carboxylate.

9. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. – 21. (cancelled)